

**From:** Sergio Valdes-Flores  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/21/01 11:37am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Why the gov't should never have been involved in suing M\$oft, there is NO JUSTICE.

But if you believe you can make a difference in this case, read on, first Microsoft's lawyers offer is going to have Microsoft stuff UP THE KAZOO in every aspect of software, like a domino effect, it only serve's Ballmer's plan for world domination, and definitely not the underprivileged schools students. then secondly, it will be a laughter to the world, for those proposing to curve monopoly the Justice Department, are actually INCREASING MONOPOLY , and then double talk on the virtues that monopoly serves no real innovation practices but only commonality and sideroads from real standards or benefit consumers for look at the price of Office suite, where Microsoft makes all their money.

Thus Microsoft's solution of DONATING software, their "so-called product", in settlement serves NO JUSTICE. It only creates more evil in lopsiding the only sector that promises sustained growth ....Are you blind to this ? However, Red Hat's solution has NOTHING to do with RedHat, for Linux is Linux is Linux not RedHat's and it is source and binary free just like FreeBSD is free, and you can download it for free, upgrades are free , you are only paying for a CD and jewel case when you buy it from a store for a 1/10 the cost of the Microsoft OS software. And further more, those that learn to do system administration in any kind of UNIX know more about the network and system administration than those that are MCSE certified. Both Linux and BSD (FreeBSD, NetBSD, OpenBSD) are FREE OF CHARGE and thus of "branding". It is perfect for students to learn in, and there are world processing applications as well as presentation applications and spreadsheets application totally free of charge that are suited for either the Linux or the BSD environment. One application in point, MacOSX Sever 10.x which is not free, as you very well know, gives you an Apache Web Server application and Tomcat JavaServerPage application, they are not part of the price of the Mac software, you just get them for free, for MacOSX is a professional GUI on top of a Free software foundation which is UNIX, namely Darwin, a variant of FreeBSD.

I am all in favour of ending the suit, make Microsoft contribute to american schools with HARDWARE, that which is not theirs, for the Intel-Microsoft bully alliance and MONOPOLY that everyone knows it exists, should be shaken up for their prices to be more competitive AND their products to be better than just mediocre at best.

Thank you,  
A concerned citizen of the World.

November 20, 2001  
Paper: Private Microsoft Suits Near Settlement

By Matt Carolan

Microsoft is close to settling numerous private antitrust suits against it, and public schools may benefit.

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Citing academics and attorneys close to the discussions, The Wall Street Journal's online edition reported Tuesday that Microsoft was putting the finishing touches Monday evening on an agreement for the company to provide software and computers to more than 14,000 of the poorest schools in the U.S. over a five-year period.

Estimated at a cost of approximately \$1.1 billion, this payment would satisfy "most of its pending private class-action lawsuits" the Journal said.

The agreement would have to be approved by U.S. District Judge J. Frederick Motz in Baltimore, who is overseeing the myriad class-action suits from around the nation that have been consolidated in his court.

The Journal reported that the unusual proposal came from one of the lead plaintiffs' lawyers in the case, Michael Hausfeld, who concluded that the estimated 65 million members of the plaintiff class would receive as little as \$10 in a settlement or court victory. After administrative costs and attorney fees even that small amount would disappear.

The settlement would provide, among other things, training for students and teachers in popular Microsoft software, reconditioned hardware, and education in repair of computers and networks.

Under the terms of the deal, Hausfeld and his fellow attorneys would receive their fees from a separate payment by Microsoft to be determined by the judge.

The Journal's online story noted that one of the side effects of the settlement would be to solidify Microsoft's hold on the student computer market, which plaintiff's lawyers shrugged off as an inescapable fact of the marketplace.

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But THIS would be JUSTICE BETTER SERVED, please don't continue to monopolize the American People and the People of this WORLD....PLEASE

MS/DOJ - RED HAT OFFERS OPEN-SOURCE OPTION ON SETTLEMENT

Posted November 20, 2001 04:12 Pacific Time

NEW YORK - Red Hat jumped into the Microsoft class-action suits settlement fray Tuesday, offering to provide open-source software to every school district in the United States free of charge.

Red Hat encouraged Microsoft to redirect the money it plans to spend on its own software -- estimated at more than US\$500 million -- into purchasing additional hardware.

Microsoft said earlier Tuesday that it had agreed to settle the 100-plus class action suits accusing it of using its desktop operating system software monopoly to charge users inflated prices. Under terms of the deal, Microsoft would supply computers and its own software to thousands of the U.S.'s poorest schools

For the full story:

<http://www.infoworld.com/articles/hn/xml/01/11/20/011120hnredhatoffer.xml?1121weam>

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Sergio Valdes-Flores <[sergiovf1@earthlink.net](mailto:sergiovf1@earthlink.net)>  
Web Staff-R'us, Inc

CC: [floress@ccf.org@inetgw](mailto:floress@ccf.org@inetgw)